

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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O 131334Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2153

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20879

EXDIS

FOR UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON

DEPARTMENT REPEAT AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG EGEN XS FR

SUBJECT: PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE

1. SUMMARY: UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON REVIEWED WITH FRENCH MFA OFFICIALS AUGUST 12 THEIR PRELIMINARY REACTIONS TO RESULTS GROUP OF SEVEN MEETING IN GENEVA AND NEXT STEPS IN RECONVENING PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE. THEY REVIEWED VARIOUS POSSIBLE FORMULAS TO DEAL WITH GROUP OF SEVEN PROPOSALS, PARTICULARLY ON FOLLOW-UP MECHANISMS. MFA OFFICIALS WILL SEEK FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES' EARLY APPROVAL FOR FORMULATIONS THEY ARE CONSIDERING FOR USE IN INVITATION, AND WILL THEN SUBMIT THEM TO US FOR CONSIDERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DE LABOULAYE (MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR) SUMMARIZED THE OUTCOME OF THE GENEVA MEETING. ACCORDING TO REPORTS WHICH THE FRENCH HAVE RECEIVED, THE SEVEN ARE AGREEABLE TO LIMITING PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMISSIONS TO ABOUT 15. THEY ACCEPT OUR FORMULA FOR THE FOURTH COMMISSION, BUT WANT A STRONGER LINKAGE AMONG THE COMMISSIONS. THEY WANT AGREEMENTS EMERGING FROM EACH COMMISSION TO BE REFERRED TO THE 27 FOR APPROVAL.

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THERE SHOULD BE A COORDINATING COMMITTEE MADE UP AS

FOLLOWS: EACH COMMISSION WOULD HAVE TWO CHAIRMEN. ALL EIGHT OF THEM PLUS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE 27 WOULD MAKE UP THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE. THE 27 SHOULD MEET AGAIN AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN SIX TO NINE MONTHS. IN BETWEEN MINISTERIAL MEETINGS THERE SHOULD BE A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE 27 WITH MEETINGS AT SUB-MINISTERIAL LEVEL WHENEVER NECESSARY. THE SEVEN WANT THE U.N. TO BE PRESENT AT THE MINISTERIAL AS AN OBSERVER. THERE IS ALSO A GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT AMONG THE SEVEN TO ACCEPT AN IEA OBSERVER WITH THE RIGHT TO SPEAK AT THE ENERGY COMMISSION PROVIDED HE IS IDENTIFIED AS OECD AND NOT SPECIFICALLY IEA.

3. ALL OF THE ABOVE POINTS WERE DISCUSSED WITH ATTENTION TO THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GOF LETTER OF INVITATION. THE CONCERNS OF THE SEVEN FOR ASSURING A RESPONSE MECHANISM IF BY SOME MIRACLE ONE OF THE COMMISSIONS SHOULD ARRIVE AT A CONSENSUS, OR, MORE LIKELY, SHOULD A COMMISSION BECOME DEADLOCKED, WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH. THE FRENCH SAW THE POSSIBILITY OF GAINING OUR POINT ON TIMING FOR A SECOND MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE BY CONCEDING INTERIM MEETINGS AT SUB-MINISTERIAL LEVEL NECESSARY IN THE ABOVE CASES.

4. THE NEXT STEP IS FOR THE QUAI TO CONTACT SAUVAGNARGUES TO OBTAIN HIS CONCURRENCE WITH A FORMULA ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES WHICH WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO US FOR OUR CONSIDERATION: "IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CONFERENCE OF 27 COULD MEET AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL IF NECESSARY TO REVIEW CONSENSUS DECISIONS IN ONE OR MORE OF THE COMMISSIONS OR TO GIVE A NEW IMPULSE TO THE WORK OF THE COMMISSIONS. THE CONFERENCE OF 27 WILL MEET AGAIN AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL IN ANY EVENT 12 MONTHS AFTER THE FIRST MEETING." IT SEEMS POSSIBLE ALSO THAT THE FRENCH WILL TRY OUT A FORMULA ON THE QUESTION OF AN OBSERVER ROLE FOR THE U.N. AT THE CONFERENCE.

5. DE LABOULAYE SAID THE GOF MIGHT WISH TO DESPATCH THE LETTERS THIS WEEK BUT HE PREFERRED NEXT MONDAY OR TUESDAY BECAUSE OF THE HOLIDAY WEEKEND. HE SAID
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GISCARD'S REFERENCE IN ZAIRE TO A LONGER TIME FRAME HAD NO SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE.

6. DE LABOULAYE RAISED A QUESTION CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE MECHANISM FOR IMPLEMENTING AGREEMENTS REACHED IN THE COMMISSIONS ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE 27. HE FELT THIS WAS NEEDED FOR THE SAKE OF A COMPLETE STRUCTURE AND TO SHOW TO THE OTHERS THAT WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2154

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 20879

EXDIS

FOLLOWING THROUGH. ROBINSON RESISTED THIS IDEA. HE AGREED THAT WE HAD TO SHOW WE ARE SERIOUS' BUT WE COULD FIND OTHER WAYS TO DO THIS. HE THOUGHT IF WE TRIED TO SPELL OUT TOO MUCH DETAIL IN ADVANCE WE COULD AROUSE EXPECTATIONS WHICH WOULD BE DISAPPOINTED AND RISK THE WHOLE ENTERPRISE. HE STRESSED TO DE LABOULAYE OUR CONCEPTION THAT THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CREATING COULD PROVE TO BE OF HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE IN RELATIONS BETWEEN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND THE DEVELOPING WORLD. IT COULD PROVIDE US WITH THE MEANS FOR DEALING WITH SPECIFIC PROBLEMS. ON THE OTHER HAND THE DEVELOPING NATIONS COULD CREATE A MINI-U.N. IF THEIR ACTIONS ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE AND CONSTRUCTIVE; THUS HE FELT THAT WE MUST INSIST ON A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. WE NEED TO TEST THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OTHER SIDE AND UNTIL WE'VE COMPLETED THIS STEP WE MUST AVOID ESTABLISHING ANY MORE THAN A MINIMAL STRUCTURE TO ALLOW FOR THE COMMISSION EFFORTS. DE LABOULAYE RESTATED HIS POINT. COMMENT: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THIS IDEA HAS AN INTELLECTUAL ATTRACTION FOR HIM AND POSSIBLY FOR OTHERS IN THE QUAI. IT SEEMS LIKELY TO CROP UP AGAIN, PERHAPS WITH MORE ELABORATE JUSTIFICATION.

7. ON THE QUESTION OF LINKAGE, ROBINSON AND DE LABOULAYE WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT SOME LINKAGE CANNOT BE AVOIDED. THE FOURTH COMMISSION FORMULA ALREADY

PROVIDES LINKAGE. IF THE OTHERS WANTED MORE WE MAY
HAVE TO CONSIDER THIS. THEY AGREED THAT THE CONCEPT
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CUT BOTH WAYS AND THAT IN FUTURE WE COULD POSSIBLY USE
LINKAGE TO INCREASE LDC PRESSURE ON OPEC. ROBINSON
SAID WE WERE NOT ANTICIPATING ANY OPEC CONCESSIONS ON
ENERGY BASED ON WHAT WE DO IN OTHER AREAS. THE FRENCH
SEE THIS COMPLEX OF RELATIONS VERY MUCH THE SAME WAY WE
DO.

8. REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A U.N. OBSERVER AT THE
CONFERENCE, ROBINSON SAID THAT THIS COULD BE A PROBLEM
FOR US. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT WALDHEIM MIGHT BE THE
OBSERVER, AND ROBINSON SAID THAT COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
HE NOTED THAT WE HAD NOT CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY OF
HAVING OBSERVERS PRESENT AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING.
THIS AT LEAST WOULD BE A COURTESY TO THE MINISTERS TO
BE PERMITTED TO MEET ALONE.

9. THE ABOVE WAS REVIEWED WITH UNDER SECRETARY
ROBINSON PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM PARIS.
GAMMON

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